

- 1. (currently amended) An integrated component mounting system for use in an x-ray tube, comprising:
 - (a) a shaft defining a longitudinal axis;
 - (b) a-an x-ray tube component disposed on said shaft; and
 - (c) means for exerting and transmitting a radial force, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force controls radial movement of said x-ray tube component with respect to said longitudinal axis defined by said shaft.
- 2. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force substantially prevents radial movement of said component when said component is in a desired radial position.
- 3. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force at least partially controls axial movement of said component along said longitudinal axis defined by said shaft.
- 4. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 3, wherein said shaft further comprises a support member and said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force cooperates with said support member to substantially prevent axial movement of said component when said component is in a desired axial position.

- 5. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force moves said component to a desired radial position during assembly of the integrated component mounting system.
- 6. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 5, wherein when said component is in said desired position, said component is centered with respect to said longitudinal axis.
- 7. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 5, wherein when said component is in said desired position, said component is off-center with respect to said longitudinal axis.
- 8. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force automatically centers said component with respect to said longitudinal axis during assembly of the integrated component mounting system.
- 9. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force secures said component to said shaft.
- 10. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force transmits an axial force and a

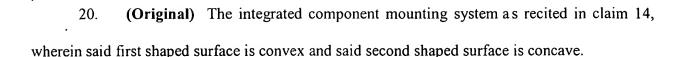


radial force to said component, and said transmission of said axial force and said transmission of said radial force occurs simultaneously.

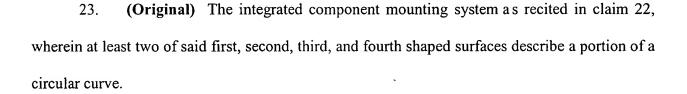
- 11. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force comprises:
 - (a) a nut configured to engage said shaft;
 - (b) a first shaped surface defined by said component; and
 - (c) a second shaped surface defined either by said shaft or by said nut and arranged for contact with said first shaped surface.
- 12. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force comprises:
 - (a) a nut configured to engage said shaft;
 - (b) an interface structure that is attached to the component and defines a first shaped surface; and
 - (c) a second shaped surface defined either by said shaft or by said nut and arranged for contact with said first shaped surface.
- 13. (currently amended) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 1, wherein said <u>x-ray tube</u> component comprises <u>a-an x-ray tube</u> target anode.
- 14. (currently amended) An integrated component mounting system for use in an x-ray tube, comprising:



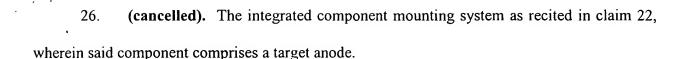
- (a) a shaft including a support member and defining a longitudinal axis;
- (b) a nut configured to engage said shaft;
- (c) a <u>an x-ray tube target anode</u> component that defines a first shaped surface and is disposed on said shaft between said nut and said support member; and
- (d) a second shaped surfaced defined either by said shaft or by said nut and arranged for contact with said first shaped surface.
- 15. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said first shaped surface defines a first inclination angle and said second shaped surface defines a second inclination angle.
- 16. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said second shaped surface is defined by said shaft.
- 17. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said second shaped surface is defined by said nut.
- 18. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said first and second shaped surfaces each describe a portion of a circular curve.
- 19. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said first and second shaped surfaces each describe a parabolic curve.



- 21. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said first shaped surface is concave and said second shaped surface is convex.
- 22. (amended) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 14, wherein said second shaped surface is defined by said nut, and a third shaped surface is defined by said x-ray tube target anode component and said third shaped surface is arranged for contact with a fourth shaped surface defined by said shaft.



- 24. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 22, wherein at least two of said first, second, third, and fourth shaped surfaces describe a parabolic curve.
- 25. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 22, wherein said first, second, third, and fourth shaped surfaces each define an inclination angle.



- 27. (Original) An x-ray tube, comprising:
- (a) a vacuum enclosure;
- (b) a cathode disposed within said vacuum enclosure; and
- (c) an integrated component mounting system comprising:
 - (i) a shaft defining a longitudinal axis;
 - (ii) a target anode disposed on said shaft and positioned within said vacuum enclosure so as to receive electrons emitted by said cathode; and
 - (iii) means for exerting and transmitting a radial force, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force controls radial movement of said target anode with respect to said longitudinal axis defined by said shaft.
- 28. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 27, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force substantially prevents radial movement of said target anode when said target anode is in a desired radial position.
- 29. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 27, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force at least partially controls axial movement of said target anode along said longitudinal axis defined by said shaft.

- 30. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 27, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force moves said target anode to a desired radial position during assembly of said integrated component mounting system.
- 31. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 27, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force automatically centers said target anode with respect to said longitudinal axis during assembly of said integrated component mounting system.
- 32. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 27, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force transmits an axial force and a radial force to said target anode, and said transmission of said axial force and said transmission of said radial force occurs simultaneously.
- 33. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 27, wherein said means for exerting and transmitting a radial force comprises:
 - (a) a nut configured to engage said shaft;
 - (b) a first shaped surface defined by said target anode; and
 - (c) a second shaped surface defined either by said shaft or by said nut and arranged for contact with said first shaped surface.
- 34. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 33, wherein said first shaped surface defines a first inclination angle and said second shaped surface defines a second inclination angle.

- 35. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in c laim 33, wherein s aid s econd s haped surface is defined by said shaft.
- 36. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in c laim 33, wherein s aid s econd shaped surface is defined by said nut.
- 37. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 33, wherein said second shaped surface is defined by said nut, and a third shaped surface is defined by said target anode and said third shaped surface is arranged for contact with a fourth shaped surface defined by said shaft.
- 38. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 33, wherein said first and second shaped surfaces each describe a portion of a circular curve.
- 39. (Original) The x-ray tube as recited in claim 33, wherein said first and second shaped surfaces each describe a parabolic curve.
- 40. (amended) An integrated component mounting system for use in an x-ray tube, comprising:
 - (a) a shaft including a support member and defining a longitudinal axis;
 - (b) a nut configured to engage said shaft;
 - (c) an interface structure defining an opening and a first shaped surface;

- (d) a an x-ray tube component that defines an opening wherein said interface structure is received, and said x-ray tube component is disposed on said shaft between said nut and said support member so that said shaft is received within said opening defined by said interface structure; and
- (e) a second shaped surfaced defined either by said shaft or by said nut and arranged for contact with said first shaped surface.
- 41. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 40, wherein said second shaped surface is defined by said shaft.
- 42. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 40, wherein said second shaped surface is defined by said nut.
- 43. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 40, wherein said first shaped surface defines a first inclination angle and said second shaped surface defines a second inclination angle.
- 44. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 40, wherein said first and second shaped surfaces each describe a portion of a circular curve.
- 45. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 40, wherein said first and second shaped surfaces each describe a parabolic curve.

46. (Original) The integrated component mounting system as recited in claim 40, wherein said component comprises a target anode.